Kubo, Teresa

From:

Barber, Anthony

Sent: To: Friday, March 15, 2013 1:05 PM Kubo, Teresa; Cheryl Brantley Reichgott, Christine; Eaton, Thomas

Cc: Subject:

RE: Citizen Group Request RE: Bonneville Power Administration, I-5 Corridor Reinforcement

Project

Teresa, thanks for keeping us in the loop. I'm adding Tom Eaton to this reply as well.

From: Kubo, Teresa

Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 9:14 AM

To:

Cc: Barber, Anthony; Reichgott, Christine

Subject: RE: Citizen Group Request RE: Bonneville Power Administration, I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project



Thank you for contacting me, and for the detailed information provided. We are preparing comments on this project, and I have worked with the project lead for the Reynolds Metals site to review the portions of the DEIS relevant to that site. We will take the other sites and issues raised in your letter into consideration as we complete our review.

Best regards,

Teresa Kubo
Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit
US EPA Oregon Operations
805 SW Broadway, Ste 500
Portland, OR 97205
Tel. 503-326-2859

From:

Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 8:58 AM

To: Kubo, Teresa

Cc: Barber, Anthony; Reichgott, Christine

Subject: Citizen Group Request RE: Bonneville Power Administration, I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project

Ms. Kubo,

The southwest Washington foothills are under threat of the largest clearcut seen in 70 years. These beautiful foothills are planned to be destroyed by Bonneville Power Administration. <u>BPA owns most of the right-of-way on their existing transmission corridor</u>, their West Alternative, but has chosen to clear more than 1500 acres of **new** land for their I-5 Corridor Reinforcement Project.

BPA's Preferred Alternative has more than 68 **new** river and stream crossings, crossing the Cowlitz River and East Fork of the Lewis River, some of Washington State's last re maining free-flowing rivers. Many of the river and stream crossings have had a difficult and slow recovery of several species of endangered and threatened salmon.

BPA did not perform in depth studies on their Preferred Alternative of known toxic waste dumps and threaten to disturb these sites by digging footings for the transmission towers sometimes deeper than 80 feet (Reynolds flouride plume at the Oregon southern end of the project). Also of concern for private wells and local creeks that flow into the North Fork of the Lewis River is the old International Paper Mill site, where known PCB barrels are buried in the same locations tower footings are planned.

WA DOE Hazard site list FS ID Clark County:

30204: Chelatchie Tank Farm (Rank 4)

1031: IPC Plywood Mill (Rank 5) 1032: IPC Solid Waste Site (Rank 2)

BPA did not perform a "feet on the ground" study of < font style="font-size:12pt" color="#002000" size wetlands on their Preferred Alternative, as per their Draft EIS. And have only used maps and geographical data. Using those methods would not find all areas encumbered by wetlands.

We request that Bonneville Power Administration should request a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers and Department of Ecology for their West Alternative (where they already own rights to build) using double- or triple-circuit towers in wetlands.

BPA has not done a full study of **all** alternatives and we believe they should before they choose any route.

Would you please take a look at the attachment and comment to BPA and the Army Corps of Engineers on these issues. **The deadline to comment is noon, March 25, 2013**.

Please forward the attachment on to all Environmental Protection Agency employees working on this project.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter,

A Better Way for BPA http://abetterway4bpa.org